

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Dong-Hyuk CHAE and Heung-Soo LIM

Serial No.: 10/822,167 Examiner: Wendler, Eric J.

Filed: April 8, 2004 Group Art Unit: 2824

Confirmation No.: 2938

For: SEMICONDUCTOR MEMORY SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR MULTI-SECTOR ERASE OPERATION

Mail Stop Issue Fee  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**APPLICANT'S COMMENTS ON EXAMINER'S STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR  
ALLOWANCE**

In the Notice of Allowance dated August 1, 2006, the Examiner summarized features of the claims that are allowable over the prior art. To the extent that these comments regarding allowable subject matter, wherever they are found, agree with the language of the individual allowed claims, the applicants agree with the Examiner. The applicants do not agree that all of the elements of the claims are shown individually in the prior art.

The applicants would also like to note that there are several independent claims allowed in this case, as well as various dependent claims that depend directly or indirectly from the allowed independent claims. It is a well known tenet of patent law that patent claims are read as a whole, rather than phrase by phrase or element by element. Therefore, the scope of the allowed claims is not necessarily limited to only the claim elements that the Examiner reproduced, but rather, to the language of the claims themselves, in their entirety.

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Respectfully submitted,  
MARGER JOHNSON & McCOLLOM, P.C.

  
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